

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed June 2, 2008. Claims 1-18 were pending. In the Office Action, claims 1-18 were rejected. Claims 1-18 have been amended. Claims 1-18 are now pending.

In the Office Action, claims 1-18 were objected to for use of the limitations "assignable to" and "when", which were found to be conditional and therefore optionally recited and thus non-limiting.

In the Office Action, claims 1-18 were rejected over U.S. Patent No. 6,665,780 ("Bradley") alone or in combination with U.S. Patent No. 6,757,696 ("Multer"), or over Multer in combination with U.S. Patent No. 5,751,813 ("Dorenbos").

After the previous amendments and the current amendment, all of the independent claims (1, 10, 18) have been amended to recite that the control policy is assigned to a first grouping level and the same control policy also is assigned to a second grouping level, and the DRM server does not start because the control policy is not associated at a highest grouping level. Support may be found in the specification, at least at page 29 lines 20-21.

None of the cited references discloses or suggests that the control policy is assigned to a first grouping level and the same control policy also is assigned to a second grouping level, and the DRM server does not start because the control policy is not associated at a highest grouping level., as required by all the claims as amended.

All of the claims including the dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons stated above.

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In view of the foregoing, the Applicant believes that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request favorable reconsideration.

In the event the Examiner deems personal contact desirable in the disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (508) 293-7074.

Please charge all fees occasioned by this submission to Deposit Account No. 05-0889.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 2, 2008

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